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(54) **DIGITAL INFORMATION REPRODUCER**

(57) Abstract:

PURPOSE: To achieve an accurate clock reproduction by a method wherein a response characteristic of a recording/reproducing system is detected and an expected value of a multivalued level is controlled from the results of the detection to improve an error rate by a PRML signal processing.

CONSTITUTION: An expected value controller 5 sorts and stores a digital data subjected to an A/D conversion 3 based on a survival pulse obtained during a viterbi decoding operation and detects a response characteristic of a recording/ reproducing system based on the digital data to determine changes in level contained in a reproduction signal. An expected value of a multivalued level used in the viterbi decoder 4 is controlled from the results of the detection. Then, the expected value of the decoder 4 is followed according to changes in level regardless of any changes caused in the level of the reproduction signal.